

Irbil

PRAYER

in the midst of

WAR

Baghdad

Prayer in the Midst of War

- ❖ *Restoration of Peace*
- ❖ *Our Hearts*
- ❖ *The Iraqi People*
- ❖ *The American People*
- ❖ *The People of the World*



RESTORATION
of
PEACE

Restoration of Peace

Peace

- ❖ a swift end to the conflict

Minimal Bloodshed

- ❖ a limit to the violence and destruction

Justice

- ❖ freedom for the oppressed
- ❖ judgment for those who misuse their power

The image is a composite with a warm, golden-yellow color palette. In the background, a map of Iraq is superimposed over a desert landscape with rolling dunes. A mosque minaret is visible on the left side. The title 'OUR HEARTS' is written in large, white, serif capital letters across the center of the map. Below the title, the word 'IRAQ' is faintly visible. The names 'Irbil' and 'Baghdad' are marked on the map with small circles and a star, respectively. In the foreground, a man and a woman are shown in profile, facing each other with their hands clasped in a prayerful gesture. The woman has long, light-colored hair, and the man has dark hair. They are both wearing patterned clothing.

OUR HEARTS

Baghdad

Our Hearts


Pray that God will teach us:

- ❖ to mourn humanity's sin and its effects
- ❖ to never exult in death, even the death of those who deserve judgment
- ❖ to love our enemies
- ❖ to forgive those who harm us or our loved ones
- ❖ to be humbly dependent on God, not on our own strength

Our Hearts

Pray that we will learn to depend on God when we face:

- ❖ the threat of domestic terrorism
- ❖ fear of military retaliation
- ❖ anxiety in our daily lives

The background is a warm, golden-yellow gradient. On the left, a dark silhouette of a mosque minaret with a crescent and star on top is visible. In the center, a map of Iraq is outlined in a light, irregular shape. Overlaid on the map are the city names 'Irbil' and 'Baghdad' in a stylized, golden font, with a small star marking Baghdad. The title 'The IRAQI PEOPLE' is written in a large, white, serif font across the center of the map. In the foreground, a family of five is depicted. A woman in a black hijab holds a young child in a red shirt and blue overalls. In front of them are an elderly man with a white beard and a white head covering, a woman in a green headscarf, and an elderly man with a white beard and a white head covering.

The IRAQI PEOPLE

Baghdad

The Iraqi People

The Hardships of War

- ❖ Civilian death and tragedy
- ❖ Families of soldiers
- ❖ The soldiers themselves
- ❖ Living in fear
- ❖ Living in chaos
- ❖ Food and fuel shortages
- ❖ People's businesses and livelihoods
- ❖ Iraqi leaders in the midst of war
- ❖ Medical and relief workers

The Iraqi People

The Spiritual Condition

- ❖ The witness of our Iraqi Christian brothers and sisters
- ❖ Restraint of anger against Christians
- ❖ The salvation of civilians and soldiers

The Iraqi People

The Future of Iraq

- ❖ Rebuilding of hospitals
- ❖ Damage to property and savings
- ❖ The economy
- ❖ A stable and just government
- ❖ A quick reconstruction

The

AMERICAN PEOPLE

Irbil

Baghdad



The American People

Our Soldiers

- ❖ safety and health
- ❖ salvation
- ❖ morale
- ❖ unity of purpose



The American People

Our Military

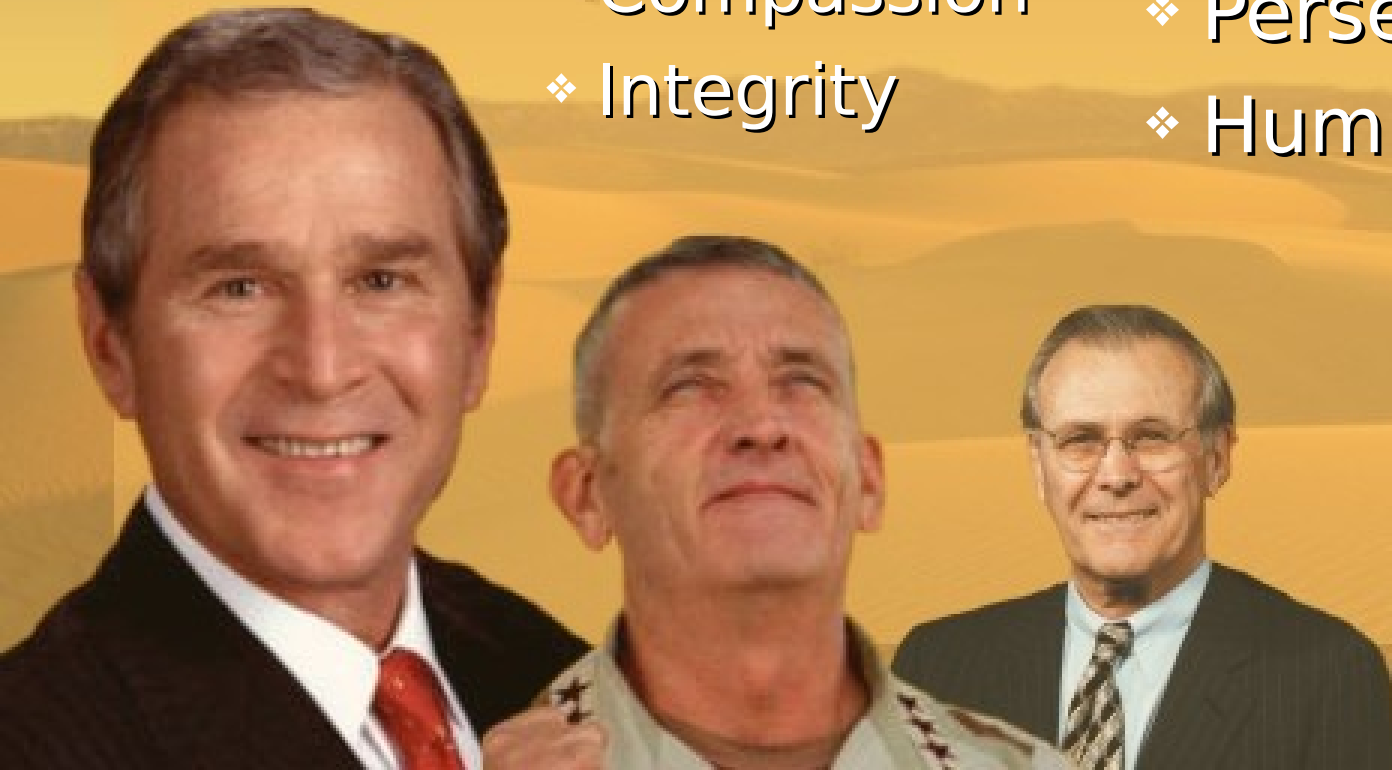
Righteous God, you rule the nations.
Guard brave men and women who risk
themselves in battle for their country.
Give them compassion for enemies who
also fight for patriotic causes.
Keep our sons and daughters from hate
that hardens, ...

... or from scorekeeping with human lives. Though they must be at war let them live
for peace,
as eager for agreement as for victory.
Encourage them as they encourage one another,
and never let hard duty separate them
for loyalty to your Son, our Lord,
Jesus Christ. Amen.

The American People

Our Leaders

- ❖ Wisdom
- ❖ Stamina
- ❖ Compassion
- ❖ Perseverance
- ❖ Integrity
- ❖ Humility



The American People

Those Left at Home

- ❖ Families of our soldiers
- ❖ Mothers
- ❖ Spouses ...



The American People

Those Left at Home

- ❖ Children of single-parent soldiers
- ❖ Guardians of these children
- ❖ Families that will experience tragedy
- ❖ The businesses that employ military reserves who have been called to serve

The American People

Our Country

- ❖ unity in the midst of political division
- ❖ security against terrorist attacks
- ❖ submission to Christ

The PEOPLE
of the
WORLD



The People of the World

- ❖ The leaders of other Arab nations
- ❖ Muslims from all nations who equate Christianity with American politics
- ❖ Evangelism in the Middle East
- ❖ Ongoing wars and threats of war in: *Angola, Zimbabwe, Columbia, Uzbekistan, Kashmir, the Philippines, and many other nations*

Closing Charge

Go into the world in peace!

And take peace to a world that desperately needs it.

Go into the world in faith!

Trusting God to lead you, trusting people to receive you.

Go into the world with hope!

With God's presence before you and God's grace to carry you ...

Go into the world with love!
***Serving those in whom
Christ lives
and seeking peace and
justice for
those for whom Christ died.***
Go in peace, faith, hope, and love.
Thanks be to God!